

REMARKS

Claims 1-60 were pending in the application. Upon entry of this Response, claims 1-6, 19, 23, 24, 33-37, 44 and 48 will be amended, claims 18 and 49-60 will be canceled, and claims 61-64 will be added. Thus, claims 1-7, 19-48 and 61-64 will be pending. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the originally filed claims in this application and/or in related applications. No new matter is believed to be added by this Response.

All previously pending claims stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(e) as being anticipated by US Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0027511 A1 ("Horita et al.").

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of these rejections in view of the amendments presented herein and the following remarks.

Horita et al. Does Not Disclose or Suggest "Determining Vehicle Control Information Associated with an Operator of a Vehicle"

The pending claims 1-7 and 19-48 as amended recite that vehicle control information "associated with an operator of a vehicle" is determined (or similar language). Such a feature might be useful, for example, when it is "desirable to provide different information to different drivers (*e.g.*, a lower speed limit to a driver who is learning how to drive)." Specification, page 2, lines 10-12.

Note that the information as recited in these claims is "associated with an operator." That is, different vehicle control information might be determined for two different operators who are in the same situation (*e.g.*, who are at the same intersection or traveling at the same speed). Examples of information that might be "associated with an operator" include the operator's previous behavior, his or her age, whether the operator has a learner's permit (as opposed to a normal driver's license) and/or operator insurance information. Specification, page 7, lines 11-26. As another example, the operator may have established preference information (*e.g.*, indicating which information should be provided and/or how it should be displayed). Specification, page 7, line 27 to page 8, line 13.

Horita et al. discloses a system to wirelessly distribute information to vehicle drivers (e.g., road regulation information). However, Horita et al. does not disclose that vehicle control information may be "associated with an operator of a vehicle." That is, the same vehicle control information is provided to all operators who are in the same situation (e.g., at the same intersection or traveling at the same speed).

The Office Action suggests that Horita et al. does disclose that vehicle control information can be dependent on operator information at paragraphs 0105 and 0106. Applicants respectfully disagree and suggest that a prior art reference must be considered in its entirety, or as a "whole." MPEP 2141.02. Horita et al. states that information may be created "for each situation of the user." Paragraph 0105. However, the reference makes clear that the situation of the user includes the position of the user (paragraph 0106), vehicle dimensions or classifications (paragraph 0107), a location of a railway line (paragraph 0108), or advertising information associated with the "particular driving situation of the user" (paragraph 0527). Note that in every one of these cases the same information would be provided to all operators who are in the same situation. Thus, nothing in Horita et al. discloses that vehicle control information may be "associated with an operator of a vehicle" as recited in these claims.

Nor would such a feature be obvious in view of Horita et al. By associating the vehicle control information with an operator of a vehicle (e.g., his or her age), information could be provided as appropriate for a particular driver (e.g., a reduced speed limit might be established for a young driver).

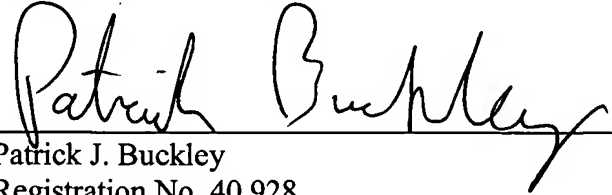
Horita et al. Does Not Disclose or Suggest the Specific Types of Vehicle Control Information Associated with an Operator as Recited in Claims 61 Through 64

In addition to the reasons set forth above, claims 61-64 recite specific types of vehicle control information that are associated with an operator. In particular, the vehicle control information is "associated with an operator age" (claim 61), "associated with an operator license" (claim 62), "associated with operator insurance information" (claim 63), or "associated with an operator preference" (claim 64). Applicants respectfully suggest that Horita et al. does not

disclose or suggest any of these types of vehicle control information. Thus, this is an additional reason why claims 61-64 are allowable.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-0191.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Buckley", written over a horizontal line.

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July 23, 2003
Date